

AGENDA ITEM VII C

MISCELLANEOUS ACADEMIC REPORT

**LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER -
NEW ORLEANS**

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE EPILEPSY CENTER

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

At its meeting of October 24, 2002, the Board of Regents took the following action:

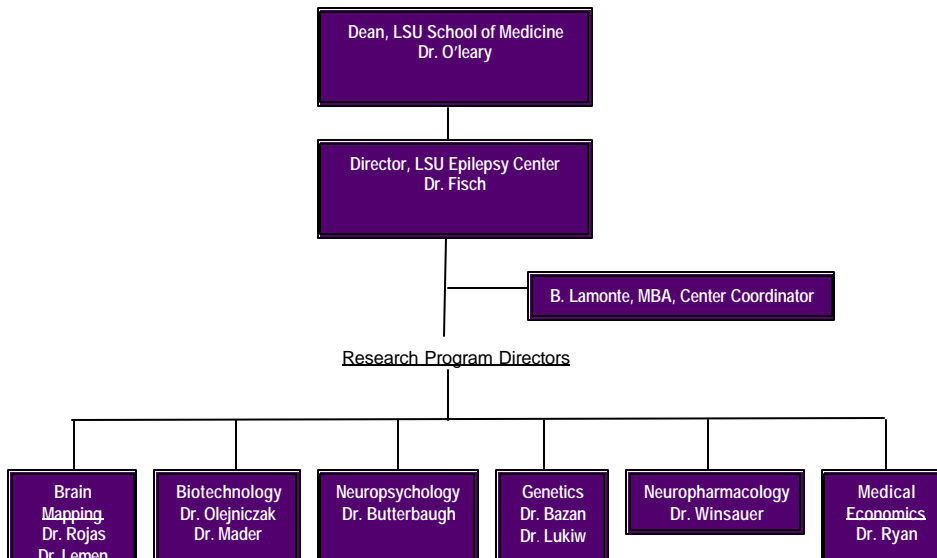
Full approval is granted for the Epilepsy Center at the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center-New Orleans, effective immediately and through October 1, 2004 . By October 1, 2003, the LSUHSC shall submit to the Commissioner of Higher Education a progress report addressing concerns expressed in the staff summary. If the LSUHSC decides to request an extension of the term of approval, then prior to the date given above, it shall submit to the Commissioner of Higher Education substantial evidence of additional external support which justifies continued Center operations.

Areas of concern to be addressed in the one year progress report include:

1. An organizational chart
2. A list of advisory board members
3. Funding for the second year of Center operations.

STAFF SUMMARY

I. Organizational Chart



While not shown in the organizational chart, the report indicates that several new personnel have joined the Center since its inception. One adult and one pediatric epileptologist have been added to the cadre of professionals. A Ph.D.-credentialed research associate was hired to participate in biotechnology research. A Nurse Coordinator was hired for the Center by Tenet Corp. These additions enable the Center to provide surgical cures for more citizens and to train additional health care professionals in epilepsy care and research.

II. Advisory Board

A list of Advisory Board members and their affiliations was provided in the report. The staff notes that Dr. Tim Ryan has been named Chancellor of the University of New Orleans and anticipates that he will no longer be able to serve in this capacity.

The report states that the director is forming a Center Pharmaceutical and Biotechnology Advisory Board composed of national representatives from the pharmaceutical industry. These individuals will advise the Center on obtaining additional funding and continuing sources of support.

III. Funding

The Center has thus far continued to receive substantial support from the House Appropriations HB-1 for its second year of operation. While Center faculty anticipate that this funding will continue, other sources of revenue have been developed. All sources of revenue for the second year of operation are indicated in the chart which follows.

Revenue for 2003-04

Research Enhancement Fund, LSUHSC	\$10,000
UCB Pharmaceuticals	10,000
Elan Pharmaceuticals	10,000
LSU Foundation	16,000
Cyberonics Corp	25,000
Tenet Corp	100,000
Research Funding	140,000
Clinical Revenue	326,000
State Funds	475,000
Total	\$1,112,000

In addition to the revenue listed above, seven research projects initiated under the programs outlined in the organizational chart are expected to lead to further external funding.

The report also states that there is an unmeasurable but significant savings to the State of Louisiana resulting from the elimination of the tax burden caused by disability, unemployment, interrupted education and patient care. Center activities also alleviate caretaker burdens.

STAFF ANALYSIS

The staff concludes that the Center for Epilepsy has satisfied the requirements for the annual report. The staff observes that there appears to be insufficient representation on the Advisory Board from social service and other agencies involved with epilepsy patients as well as scientists involved in epilepsy research outside of the institution. If the institution seeks continuation of the Epilepsy Center beyond the approval date, the Advisory Board composition should be addressed in any subsequent report or request.

The staff observes that revenues for the second year of operation are more than adequate to absorb the \$500,000 of expenses that were projected for this period in the original proposal.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The staff recommends that the Academic and Student Affairs Committee accept the 2003 Progress Report from Louisiana State University Health Science Center - New Orleans Relative to Implementation of the Epilepsy Center. The term of approval for this Center shall continue through October 1, 2004.